

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont *alb*

FROM : A. Rosen *R*

SUBJECT: JACK L. RUBY, AKA;
LEE HARVEY OSWALD, AKA - VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS

DATE: August 20, 1964

1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Malley
1 - Mr. McGowan
1 - Mr. Hines
1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Gale _____
Rosen ☒ _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

SYNOPSIS:

A copyright story by Dorothy Kilgallen appeared in the "New York Journal-American," August 18, 1964, which purported to give a word for word account of Ruby's testimony before Chief Justice Warren and representatives of the President's Commission at the Dallas County Jail on June 7, 1964. Mr. J. Lee Rankin of the President's Commission telephonically contacted Malley 8/20/64 and advised him that the seven members of the President's Commission had requested that he, Rankin, make a specific request of the FBI to conduct an investigation in an effort to determine how the transcript of Ruby's testimony before the President's Commission on June 7, 1964, came into possession of Dorothy Kilgallen and the "New York Journal-American." Mr. Rankin will confirm this request in writing.

ACTION:

In view of the specific request made by the President's Commission, Dallas and New York are being instructed by teletype attached to expeditiously conduct the desired investigation.

BACKGROUND:

On June 7, 1964, Chief Justice Warren and members of the President's Commission proceeded to Dallas where they interviewed Ruby in the Dallas County Jail. Present at this interview in addition to the Chief Justice were Congressman Gerald R. Ford; Chief Counsel J. Lee Rankin; Elmer W. Moore, special agent of the Secret Service; Joseph H. Ball, staff counsel; Arlen Specter; Robert G. Storey, counsel; Leon Jaworski, counsel; Jim Bowie, Assistant District Attorney; Joe H. Tonahill; Sheriff Bill Decker; E. L. Holman, Chief Jailer; Orville Smith, Deputy Sheriff; and Helen Laidrich, a court reporter who recorded the interview for the Commission.

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Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: JACK L. RUBY, AKA;

The Bureau took no part whatever in setting up this interview and no Bureau personnel were present when the interview was conducted. During the course of the interview Ruby reportedly insisted that he be given a polygraph examination and the Chief Justice assured him that this would be done. The Bureau was subsequently requested by the Commission to conduct the polygraph examination. We advised the Commission in writing of the pitfalls, legal and otherwise, connected with affording Ruby a polygraph examination under the circumstances and that to do so would be contrary to standard Bureau procedures controlling the use of the polygraph but stated that we would conduct the polygraph examination if the Chief Justice still desired us to do so.

On July 13, 1964, at the Commission's request we conducted the polygraph examination. Immediately thereafter stories appeared in the Dallas papers setting forth questions which had been asked of Ruby and also his answers and by letter dated July 30, 1964, the Commission requested that we conduct an investigation to determine how these questions and answers came into possession of the newspapers. The investigation has been conducted and the results submitted to the Commission by letter dated 8/19/64 with the exception of the interview of the court reporter who recorded the polygraph examination who is currently on vacation in Nassau, Bahamas. She will be interviewed promptly when available. The investigation resulted in denial by all persons present that they had divulged the information to news media and officials of the newspaper who printed the story refused to divulge the source of their information.

It is noted that a transcript of the interview of Ruby on June 7, 1964, was made available to the Bureau headquarters for the purpose of assisting us in preparing the necessary questions for the polygraph examination which was later afforded Ruby on 7/18/64. This transcript has not been reviewed by or furnished to any field office or anyone outside of Bureau headquarters.

[Handwritten signatures and initials: "JL", "JRM", "D"]